

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A directory server system comprising:

a directory server for storing an attribute of an entry;

an entity monitor ~~being~~ connected to said directory server for monitoring an entity, so that if a change in a state of said entity appears, then said entity monitor instructs said directory server to renew an attribute of a corresponding entry to said entity; [[and]]

a directory renewal history storage device ~~being~~ connected to said directory server for storing a renewed attribute of said entry as attribute renewal history ~~information~~ information;

a time-correspondent directory server connected to both said directory server and said directory renewal history storage device for confirming an existence of a target entry on said directory server, so that if said existence of said target entry on said directory server could be confirmed, then said time-correspondent directory server obtains said attribute renewal

history information from said directory renewal history storage device;

a directory purging entry storage device connected to said directory server, said directory renewal history storage device and said time-correspondent directory server for storing an entry corresponding to an absent entity which has become absent from said directory server,

wherein if said entity becomes absent, then said attribute renewal history information of a corresponding entry to said absent entity is deleted from said directory renewal history storage device and stored in said directory purging entry storage device.

2-4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) The directory server system as claimed in claim [[4]] 1, further comprising a time-correspondent directory client connected to said time-correspondent directory server for sending said time-correspondent directory server a request for obtaining attribute history ~~informations~~ information at a past time of an entry from said time-correspondent directory server in order to refer to said attribute history informations at said past time.

6. (original) The directory server system as claimed in claim 5, wherein if said request from said time-correspondent directory client is free of any access right, then said time-correspondent directory server rejects said request and sends

said time-correspondent directory client a notice to the effect that said request is illegal.

7. (currently amended) The directory server system as claimed in claim [[4]] 1, further comprising a time-correspondent directory client connected to said time-correspondent directory server for sending said time-correspondent directory server a request for obtaining attribute history ~~informations~~ information during a past time period of an entry from said time-correspondent directory server in order to refer to said attribute history informations during said past time period.

8. (original) The directory server system as claimed in claim 7, wherein if said request from said time-correspondent directory client is free of any access right, then said time-correspondent directory server rejects said request and sends said time-correspondent directory client a notice to the effect that said request is illegal.

9. (currently amended) The directory server system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said directory renewal history storage device also stores renewal time and date together with said renewed attribute of said entry as attribute renewal history ~~informations~~ information.